



# News Release

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## **Drug diversion charged: pharmacy assistant and technician suspended**

**OLYMPIA** — The credentials of a Vancouver pharmacy assistant and pharmacy technician have been immediately suspended by the Board of Pharmacy and the state Department of Health. Antoinette M. Valenzuela (VA60062829, VB00071922) must stop practicing immediately.

Charging papers say Valenzuela admitted to diverting hydrocodone products as well as oxycodone and methadone products for about six months. According to the statement of charges, Valenzuela admitted that she had been taking increasing dosages of hydrocodone for her own use, and gave diverted drugs to her brother and a friend.

Valenzuela cannot practice as a pharmacy assistant or pharmacy technician in Washington until the charges are resolved. She has 20 days to respond and request a hearing.

Legal documents in this case are available online by clicking the link to “Provider Credential Search” on the Department of Health home page ([www.doh.wa.gov](http://www.doh.wa.gov)) or by calling 360-236-4700. Anyone who believes a health care provider acted unprofessionally is encouraged to call that number to report their complaint.

The Board of Pharmacy regulates pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and pharmacy assistants in Washington. The board establishes, monitors, and enforces qualifications for licensing, consistent standards of practice, continuing competency mechanisms, and discipline. Rules, policies, and procedures promote the delivery of quality health care to state residents.

The [Department of Health website](http://www.doh.wa.gov) ([www.doh.wa.gov](http://www.doh.wa.gov)) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).

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